

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2001

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HOUSE BILL 1190

Short Title: Work Leave to Vote.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Blue; Adams, Luebke, Wainwright, and Weiss.

Referred to: Election Law and Campaign Finance Reform.

April 12, 2001

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO ALLOW EMPLOYEES TIME OFF TO VOTE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Chapter 95 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new Article to read:

"Article 23.

"No Penalty for Voting.

"**§ 95-261. Time to vote.**

On the day of any election a voter may be absent from employment for two hours for the purpose of voting between the time of opening and the time of closing the polls. The voter shall not be liable to any penalty for such absence; however, the employer may specify the hours during this period in which the voter may be absent.

This section does not apply to an employee whose work day begins more than two hours subsequent to the time of opening the polls, or ends more than three hours prior to the time of closing the polls. A person who refuses the right granted in this section to an employee is guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor."

SECTION 2. This act becomes effective with respect to elections held on or after January 1, 2002.